



**Town of LaGrange Parks & Recreation Department**  
120 Stringham Road  
LaGrangeville, NY 12540  
845-452-1972 [www.lagrangenyny.gov](http://www.lagrangenyny.gov)

**Changing Lives...Inspiring Play...Fostering Teamwork!**

May 22, 2020

Dear LaGrange Day Camp Community,

As you know, the decision to operate LaGrange Day Camp this summer has been up in the air due to multiple factors, many of which remain out of our control. We have received some initial guidance from the CDC and the Dutchess County Department of Health. The guidance shows that if we were to operate, the program would be more of an emergency childcare operation. It has been made very clear to us that there are risks and each municipality is being given the responsibility to assess the potential risks and decide whether they choose to operate assuming an increased level of risk under the Coronavirus pandemic situation. If a municipality chooses to proceed with operating camp the following are some of the areas of changes needing to be implemented:

- Daily health screenings of staff and campers with detailed documentation
- Registration screening for at risk campers and staff
- Contact tracing procedures
- Isolation/quarantine/camp closure protocols based on positive Covid-19 cases
- PPE requirements for staff (and possibly campers)
- New cleaning and sanitizing protocols
- Change to camp program to observe social distancing, isolated group activities, non-contact sports, no sharing of equipment and supplies, staggered lunch times, elimination of group gatherings

The guidance comes to us with the clear and direct understanding that the State of New York can come in and change some, or all, of our plans or choose to not allow camp to operate at all. As of 5/21, the Governor has halted releasing any guidance or decision to operate camps based on an increase in children's illness associated with Covid-19. With our level of understanding so far, and through multiple meetings over the past weeks, the Town of LaGrange has decided **NOT** to operate LaGrange Day Camp for the summer of 2020. We feel there is still too much uncertainty to safely and confidently provide day camp. The following are strong factors which went into this decision:

- Our primary commitment is to safety of staff and campers
- The timeline to completely restructure camp, write new protocols and aggressively train staff is very small
- The availability and delayed shipping time of needed PPE and cleaning supplies is already problematic
- The camp model would not be close to the same thus changing the experience for all





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Our commitment to the health and well-being of the LaGrange community and all who participate in our programs is paramount to all we do and guides our operations. The experience would be nothing close to what you have come to know and love. We assure you that we will begin working now to plan for and re-shape as needed our camp program for the summer of 2021. Our passion and love of camp will fuel that fire and we will have the gift of time to make sure that it is exactly as it should be... safe, fun and memorable. We trust that you will understand the place from which this difficult decision comes and we ask that you stay tuned for continued updates as they pertain to the rest of our operations with LaGrange parks and recreation programming.

Best regards,

Sandy Washburn

Director of Parks & Recreation